



Corrections News

The Alabama Department of Corrections

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St. Clair Fire Truck Restoration

St. Clair Fleet Services' body shop, under David McBurnett's supervision, recently completed restoration of a 1948 General FT-46X Pumper Truck owned by the City of Orange Beach Fire Department.

They wanted to convert this venerable warrior into a parade/show truck. The complex project involved stripping the original paint down to the bare metal and repairing all dents. A team of three inmate auto body workers accomplished these repairs under the watchful eye of Auto Body Repairer Michael King, among others. Rust had damaged body panels requiring sheet metal replacement. Diamond plating was used to repair the running boards. The hose bed and water tank had been removed prior to the fire truck arriving at St. Clair. Cabinetmakers Howard Bates and Mike Foster in

the Furniture Restoration department supervised the conversion of the hose bed into a passenger compartment. Then, two bench seats were manufactured and placed down the side on the old hose bed. Safety rails and steps were also installed to make getting in and out of the fire truck easier. The area above the pump was converted into a platform, with an oak hand railing, for dignitaries to stand on. Beautiful oak flooring on the frame completed the conversion of this parade truck. Restoration took approximately four months. ■



Supreme Court Throws Out Fines In Prison Overcrowding Case

BY KYLE WINGFIELD / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS / 1/30/2004/MONTGOMERY, ALA. (AP) —

State prisons chief Donal Campbell cannot be fined millions of dollars for his agency's practice of keeping state inmates in county jails too long, the Alabama Supreme Court ruled Friday.

But the justices upheld a lower court's requirement that the state move inmates from county jails to state prisons within 30 days of their sentencing.

Department of Corrections spokesman Brian Corbett said the removal of the fines is important "because it saves the taxpayers money, and it allows this department to use what scant resources we have to address our ongoing issues, as opposed to paying fines."

Numerous counties filed suit against the Corrections Department in 1991, claiming their jails were woefully overcrowded because of inmates who should have been moved to state prisons. The parties agreed in 1998 to the 30-day time limit for removing these inmates after they were sentenced to state prison.

Three years later another backlog developed, and county government and then-Commissioner Mike Haley returned to court. Montgomery Circuit Judge William Shashy ruled the state wasn't holding up its end of the agreement, and he began fining Haley \$26 per day for each inmate held in county jails longer than 30 days.

The total eventually surpassed \$2 million. Campbell replaced Haley as the defendant in the lawsuit when Gov. Bob Riley named him prisons commissioner about a year ago.

In a 6-0 decision, the Supreme Court upheld the 30-day time limit but threw out the fines.

The court found that legal actions against state officers, like the fines against Haley, amount to an action against the state itself. Lawsuits against the state, as well as against state officers acting in their official duties, are prohibited by the Alabama Constitution.

"While the counties claim that the sanctions punish the commissioner for his contempt and seek to compel compliance with the court's orders, the effect of the trial court's order is to impact the (state) treasury and divest it of funds," Justice Jean Brown wrote for the court.

Sonny Brasfield, associate executive director of the Association of County Commissions of Alabama, said he was pleased with the court's decision to keep the time limit on state prisoners staying in county jails.

"We said consistently that this action was not about money, never has been about money, so the fact that the court threw out the fines is honestly insignificant to us," Brasfield said.

Attorney General Bill Pryor also praised the ruling.

"As we struggle to solve the manifold problems of our criminal sentencing system, especially the crowded conditions of prisons, the last thing we need is a judicial fine that further drains resources from the Department of Corrections," he said in a statement. ■

Prison System Keeps Medical Contracts Despite Objections

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS / 1/9/2004 / MONTGOMERY, ALA. (AP) — The state prison system plans to continue with its new health service contracts for inmates even though a legislative committee wouldn't approve the deals.

On Thursday, members of the Legislature's Contract Revenue Committee said the deals were too expensive and were reached without open bidding.

Prison system spokesman Brian Corbett said the contracts have already been implemented and will continue in effect.

"Nothing is going to change," he said. "We still have 100 percent coverage."

Committee members objected to a \$143 million contract with Prison Health Services of Brentwood, Tenn., to provide medical care for Alabama's inmates for three years; a \$29 million contract for MHM Correctional Services Inc. of Vienna, Va., to provide mental health care for three years; and a \$90,000 contract with Correctional Medical Management of Nashville, Tenn., to monitor the work for three months.

Normally, state agencies submit contracts to the Legislature's Contract Review Committee before they take effect. If the committee objects to them, the committee can delay them for 45 days, but the state agency can implement them after that time pass.

The prison system brought in the health-care companies in November under emergency contracts. State law allows agencies to sign emergency contracts for up to 60 days without legislative review, but long-term contracts are supposed to be reviewed by the legislative committee.

Some committee members, including Sens. Rodger Smitherman, D-Birmingham, and Roger Bedford, D-Russellville, expressed concern that the contracts were not bid even though Gov. Bob Riley criticized former Gov. Don Siegelman for not bidding state business. They also noted that the contracts provide prisoners with better health care than some poor and elderly people receive in Alabama.

State Corrections Commissioner Donal Campbell, a Riley appointee, said state law didn't require bids, but he sought proposals from several companies after consulting with the attorney general's office and state Finance Department. Campbell said he selected the cheapest companies.

NaphCare, which had the contract during the Siegelman administration, disagreed. Company spokesman David Davis said Friday the company made a \$137 million offer that was a fixed price. He argued that Prison Health Services is not fixed.

"Alabamians deserve more accountability than this, and I thought that was what Gov. Riley ran his campaign on. I guess now that was just more political rhetoric," Davis said.

Corbett, the prison system's spokesman, said the winning company was the lowest bidder when the prison system considered complete coverage with all services included.

Campbell said the prison system has to provide continuous medical care or face litigation by inmates.—INFORMATION FROM: THE MOBILE REGISTER ■

Cont'd from pg 1: St. Clair Fire Truck Restoration

St. Clair Fire Truck Restoration



The unrestored 1948 General FT-46X Pumper Truck, owned by Orange Beach Fire Department, awaits the attentive hands of the auto body shop workers of St. Clair's Fleet Services (left).

A parade truck in the making: Body panels are being replaced or stripped down to the bare metal in the body shop (right).



Prison Plan Gets Opposition

BY MIKE SHERMAN, MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER —

Larry Bennett, a Montgomery businessman and former prison commissioner, wants a hearing on Department of Corrections plans to convert the Montgomery Work Release Center to a minimum-security prison.

The center on the grounds of Kilby Correctional Center on Wares Ferry Road houses almost 300 inmates who work for wages at free-world jobs and pay restitution, child support and return 40 percent of their pay to the DOC. Prison spokesman Brian Corbett said the conversion is part of a broader realignment of the prison system that is necessary to return 1,400 inmates from a private prison in northern Mississippi. A detailed explanation of the changes will come later this week, Corbett said. A hearing is unlikely, he said.

Bennett, whose crew chief in his construction and yard-maintenance business is on work release, said Montgomery-area employers of inmates were told last week that after Jan. 30 the inmates would be housed in Alexander City or Bullock County.

Transporting inmates the 53 miles from Alexander City or 44 miles from Union Springs is not practical, said Bennett, who was the first state director of the work-release program when it was founded 32 years ago, and served as prison commissioner in 1978-79.

"These are not minimum-wage jobs. I am about to lose a crew chief in my construction business. He drives a truck and runs the crew. He will be difficult to replace," Bennett said.

"I'm calling for a public hearing as soon as possible," he said. "This, to me, seems a knee-jerk kind of decision."

He said prison officials have said that expedited paroles have cut the number of work-release inmates. "They are down by one-third, but they are not out of business," Bennett said, adding that Montgomery area businesses such as his, as well as groceries, fast-food operations and major restaurants, rely on work-release inmates. "These are not just busboys," he said. "They are key people."

Corbett said work-release beds have opened up because the number of work-release inmates has declined from 3,600 statewide to 2,600 since April as expedited paroles have increased to reduce prison overcrowding.

"We have got to bring back 1,400 from Mississippi. We have got to have a place to put them in secure facilities," Corbett said. The Montgomery Work Release center is scheduled to become a work center for minimum-security inmates who work for governments or nonprofit agencies without pay. Such inmates now come from an Elmore County facility, he said. The program saves \$12 million annually for the agencies, Corbett said.

He said the system calculated about a year ago that the work-release program generated about \$20 million annually, but operations cost about \$17 million. "Montgomery-area employers concerned about losing their work-release inmates will not lose the employees. They will be serviced from Alexander City and Bullock County centers," Corbett said.

"We have got to bring the 1,400 back. We don't have the funding to continue to house them out of state. If Amendment One had passed, we wouldn't have to do this, but we are past Plan A and Plan B and we have to take the 1,400," he said. About 1,700 inmates were sent out of state to meet federal and state court orders to relieve overcrowding in Alabama's prison system.

State Rep. Dick Brewbaker, R-Montgomery, has used work-release inmates in his private business.

"I think the program has a lot of benefits as long as care is taken with which inmates are put on the program," Brewbaker said. "I think it is better for people in prison to be working and supporting their families. I understand the stress on the prisons, but I hope they don't do longstanding damage to the work-release program."

"If transportation becomes a big issue for many employers it will become more trouble than it is worth," Brewbaker said. ■

Male Inmates Return To Alabama

MONTGOMERY- The first of more than 14-hundred male inmates incarcerated at the Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility in Tutwiler, Mississippi, are now back in the State of Alabama. In June of 2003, Alabama's inmate population reached an all-time high of more than 28,400, prompting Governor Bob Riley to sign an emergency contract with Corrections Corporation of America to provide immediate, alternative housing. Through an increased parole effort, along with expanded Community Corrections programs, Alabama's overall prison population has decreased to 27,344 as of December 31, 2003.

ADOC Commissioner Donal Campbell has announced intentions to return all 14-hundred medium-security inmates to Alabama facilities. This will be done utilizing available bed space and by changing the mission of certain ADOC facilities. Detailed in a plan previously released, this process will involve the shifting of "minimum security-in" and "minimum security-out" inmates out of secure facilities (level IV, V & VI institutions) to create available bed space for those inmates returning from Mississippi. All Alabama male inmates are scheduled to be back in Alabama facilities by March 12th. Alabama's prisons continue to operate at more than 185% of designed capacity. ■

Corrections Bans Porn Magazines In Alabama Prisons

GARRY MITCHELL/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ 1/29/2004, MOBILE, ALA. (AP) —

Alabama Corrections Commissioner Donal Campbell, in a little noticed order three months ago, banned publications or mail sent to inmates that contain sexually explicit material or nudity.

The ban includes Playboy and other magazines showing nudity or sexually explicit conduct, Department of Corrections spokesman Brian Corbett said Wednesday.

Publications are now banned if they have any "depictions of nudity or sexually explicit conduct on a routine or regular basis or promotes itself based upon depictions in the case of individual one-time issues," the amended regulation says.

It defines nudity as a "pictorial depiction where genitals or female breasts are exposed."

Publications that contain nudity "illustrative or medical, educational, or anthropological content may be excluded from the definition," the regulation says.

Inmates' mail already is screened by a prison mail clerk. A warden could review the mail if a question arises about it.

Campbell confirmed the change in a television interview Tuesday night on Alabama Public Television's For the Record.

Corbett said Campbell amended prison regulations on Nov. 17 to make the change, putting in place a policy he used in Tennessee prisons before joining Gov. Bob Riley's administration.

"This is an update to existing regulations mainly because Commissioner Campbell feels that pornography is not in the best interest of employees or prison operations — or inmates for that matter," Corbett said.

Prior to Campbell's arrival, Corbett said some "gentlemen's magazines were allowed with certain restrictions — no homosexuality, no bestiality, no child pornography. This just bars it all."

It's unclear how the order reduced the mail delivery to prisons. The system has more than 27,000 inmates.

"If each one received a piece of mail a day, that's a large volume of mail for us to screen," Corbett said. ■

Tutwiler Prison Could Set Reform Pace, Experts Say

BY CARLA CROWDER/ BIRMINGHAM NEWS/MONTGOMERY -

The single mother was asleep one June morning after working late the night before when her toddler left the house and locked himself in her hot car. Now 30, the woman is serving a 20-year manslaughter sentence in Alabama's crowded prison system for the boy's death, according to a report by a national prison expert.

"It's just pathetic. These women don't belong here," said Tim Roche of the Washington-based Justice Policy Institute, a research and policy nonprofit that aims to reduce the nation's reliance on prisons.

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—Tim Roche, Washington-based
Justice Policy Institute

"Like many other states, Alabama has turned for decades to its correctional system to address a myriad of needs displayed by its citizens," Roche wrote in a September report.

He and advocates of community corrections and sentencing reform will target Alabama as lawmakers crank up to deal with massive money problems in the 2004 legislative session.

They say Tutwiler Prison for Women could serve as the model for the Alabama prison system.

Members of the House Committee on Government and Finance dissected Roche's report at a special meeting Wednesday. Legislators should refuse to approve any more funds to house women in Louisiana, he recommends. Instead, the state should use the \$3 million saved from ending the Louisiana private prison con-

tract to expand community drug treatment and job services.

Such programs cost about \$2,000 per person per year, a fraction of the \$9,000 annually Alabama spends per prisoner. Community corrections' clients live in a supervised setting, work jobs, pay restitution and pay their own medical expenses - a huge chunk of the state's prison bill.

The institute offered six other recommendations to help ease crowding in state prisons designed for 12,387 that now house 27,000. The chaotic conditions drain budgets, and have led to a series of costly lawsuits.

Among the suggestions: repeal the Habitual Offender Act and make possession of less than 1 ounce of marijuana not punishable by state prison.

"The solutions that are set out for Tutwiler are solutions that can be applied to the male population," said Foster Cook, director of Jefferson County Community Corrections and an associate professor at UAB.

Because weather problems trapped Roche in Louisiana, the Justice Policy Institute's Michael Blain addressed the group.

He told them that Texas adopted the institute's recommendation for drug possession; less-than-a-gram is a misdemeanor. This reduced Texas's prisoner population by thousands and saved \$35 million in a year.

"We're looking at the bottom line, dollars. If you're telling us we're going to save dollars, we're going to look at it," said Rep. John Knight, D-Montgomery, the committee chair.

There's no quick fix to Alabama's problems, lawmakers heard Wednesday.

Corrections Commissioner Donal Campbell said he doesn't believe there are 300 or 400 non-violent female prisoners that could be paroled or placed in community corrections programs, as suggested.

For example, numerous inmates are serving split sentences. Approval to release them must come from the judges, and some judges are not going to agree to that, Campbell said.

Another sticking point with the judges: They constantly send offenders to prison strictly for the drug treatment as a condition of release. But there's a wait of up to a year to enter a prison treatment program, so prisoners sit there in limbo, according to Roche's report.

"There's a lot of banging around in the system that adds up to days and money," Cook said.

Knight said he plans to keep the committee focused on money, without sacrificing safety.

"You still have a lot of people who will demagogue the issue," said Knight. "We're trying to look at it strictly from a dollar standpoint." ■

Perdue Picks Alabama Official To Head Georgia's Juvenile Justice System

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ 12/30/2003, ATLANTA (AP)—

Gov. Sonny Perdue has chosen an official from the Alabama prison system to head the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice.

Albert Murray, 57, is the deputy commissioner of programs for the Alabama Department of Corrections. He formerly was commissioner of the Kansas Juvenile Justice Authority.

Perdue was expected to announce Tuesday that he would recommend Murray to the Board of Juvenile Justice, which must approve a replacement for Orlando Martinez.

The governor fired Martinez in August. Gregory S. Maxey has served as acting commissioner of the agency, which has more than 3,500 employees and an annual budget of \$281.9 million.

The department operates 31 youth prisons and its own educational system.

Martinez was hired in 1999 by Gov. Roy Barnes, a Democrat, to help fix what a federal report called "egregious" conditions in the state's juvenile prisons.

The department's youth prison in Augusta had been so badly managed that Martinez privatized the facility, resulting in the loss of jobs for about 120 state employees. Perdue stated at the time that he believed privatization was the right move, but some lawmakers have said the continued problems at the Augusta facility eventually cost Martinez his job.

The state this month awarded a five-year contract to operate the Augusta Youth Development Campus to Youth Services International, based in Sarasota, Fla. The Augusta prison holds juvenile lawbreakers who also require mental health care. The company was the lowest of three qualified bidders, saying it can do the job for \$196.50 per child per day.

A Georgia Bureau of Investigation report in July said former state employees at the Augusta facility provided inmates with marijuana and pornography and took money to let them fight each other. The report also said some of the staff had sexual relations with the youths.

No criminal charges were filed. GBI investigators said criminal prosecutions would be difficult to obtain because much of the evidence could not be corroborated. ■

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Arizona Standoff Ends: Hostage Freed

JUDI VILLA, AMANDA J. CRAWFORD AND DENNIS WAGNER/ THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC/ FEB. 2, 2004—

Grateful for officials' patience and eager to see her daughter, the female corrections officer held inside a state prison tower near Buckeye for 15 days walked to safety Sunday evening to end the longest prison-hostage saga in modern U.S. history. One of the inmates who had held her captive at the Arizona State Prison Complex-Lewis walked out before her, and the other after.

"Thanks for not giving up on me," the officer told rescuers, who met her just outside the tower's door.

She later told Corrections Director Dora Schriro: "Thanks for not rushing the tower. They would have killed me."

Prison officials identified inmates Ricky Wassenaar, 40, and Steven Coy, 39, as the men who took over the tower and held two corrections officers after an escape attempt went bad early on Jan. 18.

Coy is a rapist with a history of violence and convictions for aggravated assault. He was serving a 175-year sentence and was not eligible for release.

Wassenaar has aggravated-assault convictions and fired at Tucson police during a robbery attempt while on parole seven years ago. He was serving a 28-year sentence.

The female officer was released on the 15th day of captivity, eight days after a male officer was freed. Officials said the woman's release was held up by inmate indecision. Authorities still have not described injuries suffered by any of those involved or publicly disclosed whether the victims were sexually assaulted.

"Throughout the negotiations, they were erratic. Their actions were unpredictable," said Jeanine L'Ecuyer, spokeswoman for Gov. Janet Napolitano. "They would add things that they wanted and they were never really sure. . . . They didn't trust us."

Officials declined to elaborate on the negotiated release except to say that the inmates would be transferred to prisons out of state. They were to face numerous charges.

Schriro and Napolitano met the helicopter as the officer arrived at Banner Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center. The male officer who was held captive with her joined her at the hospital.

"We have two splendid officers," Schriro said, tears in her eyes. "They are back home with us."

"It's a tremendous relief," prison spokeswoman Cam Hunter said. "It's been such a tenuous process. There have been days and evenings when we thought we were close but then it didn't happen."

Schriro said the female officer did not appear to be physically harmed and her voice was strong. A single mom, the officer asked for her daughter.

"I would characterize her spirit as exceptionally strong," Schriro said.

For 15 days, negotiators haggled with the convicts while tactical units stood by for a possible assault. Prison officials insisted negotiations were the best chance for a peaceful ending, even as others second-guessed the decision.

Such a tactical assault surely would have led to a bloody end inside the heavily armed tower, which is surrounded by fencing. It has been described as a fortress designed to be secure to those inside it.

"It was worth the time and in the end waiting it out paid off," Schriro said.

Sgt. Joe Masella, president of the Arizona Correctional Peace Officers Association said: "I guess all those armchair Rambos were wrong. I am absolutely ecstatic."

Wassenaar and Coy were in the custody of the Federal Bureau of Prisons on Sunday.

Wassenaar's sister, Rhonda Krenz, spoke briefly with her brother after the standoff via telephone from her home in Jenison, Mich. Wassenaar told her the ordeal was over and everyone was doing OK.

"We're just ecstatic and elated. Thank God he cares enough to live," Krenz said Sunday night. "We were just praying for Ricky and Steve, and our hearts are with her family, too. I can't imagine what they've gone through."

The standoff began around 5 a.m. Jan. 18 when the prison's staffing was at low ebb, with mostly junior corrections officers on the job.

It began when Wassenaar and Coy rampaged through the kitchen in the prison's Morrey Unit, handcuffing officers and stealing a uniform that allowed Wassenaar to be buzzed into the tower by an unsuspecting officer.

The inmates had handmade knives, known as shanks, and Wassenaar fired several shots into the prison yard after Coy was confronted by officers who demanded he drop his shank and sprayed him with pepper spray.

The two inmates planned to obtain weapons in the tower and use them to escape from Arizona's second-largest prison.

They found themselves in a nearly impenetrable three-story building with at least one automatic rifle, tear gas, binoculars and other provisions.

The fact that inmates had gained control of a tower was, by all accounts, an unimaginable security breach that involved passing through several locked gates before getting buzzed into the structure.

"We're on the fence right now and if it falls out one way, we're going to come out alive," Wassenaar told a KTAR Radio reporter last week in an interview that was recorded as part of the negotiations. "If it falls the other way, we're going to come out dead."

Almost daily throughout the ordeal, negotiators provided items, including food, toiletries, water, coffee and cigarettes in exchange for confirmation that the officers were still alive and for weapons, such as shanks, mace and gas canisters.

From the beginning, hostage negotiation experts stressed the importance of building rapport with the inmates and using time as an ally. But as days passed, it appeared the process was at a stalemate.

Coy and Wassenaar apparently had nothing to bargain with except their hostages, and authorities couldn't offer them much besides comfort items.

The two inmates grew more confident with the awareness that SWAT teams were unlikely to launch a tactical assault. Wassenaar brazenly walked on the tower balcony, smoking cigarettes and making a target of himself. Officials said law enforcement snipers never drew a bead on both of the men simultaneously.

On Day 4, the inmates hurled a tear gas canister into the yard and brandished an assault rifle.

Then, on Day 7, a breakthrough: The male hostage was set free in a barter that included five boxes of roast beef, five bags of dried beans, five summer sausages, and other food.

Wassenaar said the male officer was released after he and Coy talked to him about his future.

"He was 21 years old. He didn't need to die in there," Wassenaar said. "He pretty much guaranteed us he was going to seek a new occupation."

The negotiations continued with pressure building over the image of a lone female hostage in the hands of violent criminals who apparently had nothing to lose.

If authorities gave in to any significant demands, it could have sent a message to other inmates that taking hostages is an effective strategy. If they tried to take out the inmates with sniper fire, gas or some other method and failed, the woman's tenuous chance at life

Cont'd on pg. 16

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Records Management Imaging Update

Test Phase of Project:

Female Inmate files: The test phase continues as files are being processed into the system. Processing consists of scanning and storage of all active (incarcerated & paroled) female inmate files within the Records Management System database. The Central Imaging Unit has completed the scanning process for the CRO female files and is now assisting with the scanning of female institutional files from Tutwiler PFW and Birmingham WR. Goal is to have all of the female files processed into the system by the end of February to middle of March.

Additional Testing: To supplement the test phase of the project, we're proposing that Wardens of male institutions identify 5-10 inmates that you're reasonably sure will not be transferred to another facility. These inmate files will be utilized for training, testing and evaluation of the system. This should allow personnel on a statewide basis to test the system and provide input on standards and procedures. If possible, Wardens should proceed to identify this test group of male inmates and have this list ready whenever training for your respective institution is scheduled.

New Developments:

ADOC Viewer Program: A new program has been developed by the IS programming staff which allows viewing and printing of records that have been scanned into the database. This is a significant development because the new "ADOC Viewer Program" addresses the issue of limited user licenses that are available for the primary Imaging Program. This new program should be installed for all users whose system authorization will be limited to viewing and printing inmate records. In order to plan for software installation within each facility and division, it will be necessary to get an updated listing of users, detailing which personnel can utilize the "Viewer" program as opposed to the primary application program. Another e-mail will be forthcoming regarding this request.

Equipment Installation:

Scan Stations & Viewing Stations: Installation of scanning and viewing equipment is in progress on a statewide basis.

T-1 Communication Lines: Additional T-1 lines are being ordered to upgrade the communication capability for correctional facilities currently operating with slower lines.

* Requests for additional equipment necessary for daily operations involving the Records Mgt. System should be coordinated with the Information Systems Division.

Training:

Administrative Support Personnel: Training continues for personnel within each division that need access to Central Records and/or institutional inmate files. Central Review Board training has been completed and Central Records training is in progress. Other division directors will be contacted in the near future to schedule training for their personnel.

Correctional Facility Personnel: Preliminary training at Tutwiler PFW and B'ham WR has been completed. Follow-up sessions will be conducted as necessary. Training for personnel at male institutions will be scheduled after all equipment has been installed and training has been completed for administrative support divisions. The test group of male inmates referenced above will be utilized for training and evaluation purposes within the male institutions.

If you have questions regarding the status of the project, please contact:

Glen Casey (Imaging Project Manager)

Alabama Dept. of Corrections

Research & Planning Division

334-240-9584 ■

ADOC Legal Division Appoints Crook

Effective Tuesday, January 27, 2004, Charles Crook was appointed as General Counsel with the ADOC Legal Division.

Charles Crook received his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Alabama and a master's degree in taxation from New York University. After serving two years in the U.S. Army (Captain, Judge Advocate, General's Corps) he commenced law practice in Montgomery. He practiced with the Montgomery firm of Smith, Bowman, Thagard, Crook, and Culpepper, until that firm merged with the firm of Balch and Bingham. Mr. Crook retired from Balch & Bingham in 1999 after 38 years of law practice. His principal practice areas were corporate defense and administrative law at both the state and federal levels. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Montgomery County Bar Association, as a member of the Board of Bar Commissioners, and as a member of the Permanent Code Commission. He presently serves as a Disciplinary Hearing Officer for the Alabama State Bar.

Please welcome Mr. Crook, and render your support to him.

Donal Campbell, Commissioner ■

Every Burglar's Worst Nightmare

RANCHO CORDOVA, CALIF. (AP) -A 53-year-old woman who fired nine shots with two handguns to ward off an intruder said she tried to avoid hitting her furniture. "Priorities, right?" said Carolyn Lisle of Rancho Cordova.

"It was one of those nights. I have a few holes in my glass out front." The Sacramento County sheriff's department said William Kriske, a 47-year-old parolee, was treated for a gunshot wound to the arm, then jailed on suspicion of burglary and resisting arrest after he crashed through Lisle's sliding glass door Thursday evening. Lisle's three guests fled the home, but she took action, opening fire with a .357 caliber revolver. "He was like a mosquito hitting the window. Every time he turned around, poweee," she told the Sacramento Bee. She emptied her first handgun as the intruder crashed through another window to escape, then retrieved a second revolver as he broke into her garage. "I like to be prepared," she said. She opened fire again as the intruder fled the garage and approached the house, wounding him. Sacramento County Sheriff's Sgt. Lou Fatur said Lisle, a retired state worker who once worked as a correctional officer, won't be charged for defending herself with properly registered firearms. The intruder tried to steal a motorcycle from a home across the street, but was chased off by neighbors who also had armed themselves to come to Lisle's aid. As the burglar fled, one of the men yelled, "And that's just our womenfolk," Lisle said. A California Highway Patrol officer stopped Kriske nearby, and he was arrested by sheriff's deputies. "I don't think he'll be back," Lisle said. ■

ADOC Mission Statement:

"The Mission of the Alabama Department of Corrections is the confinement and management of convicted felons, in a secure and humane environment, while preserving the safety of the public, staff, and offenders. The department will provide programs and meaningful work opportunities for offenders to facilitate successful re-entry into the community."

Female Inmates To Train At Tarwater

DONNA ADAMS MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER, WETUMPKA --

A program that will convert the closed J.S. Tarwater Developmental Center in Wetumpka into a facility to house prison inmates who are preparing to re-enter society is drawing mixed reviews from residents here. The new program, Life Tech, will begin in April and will provide counseling on substance abuse and life skills to women who are incarcerated for low-risk crimes in Julia Tutwiler Prison for Women or have been transported to prisons in Louisiana. It will be operated on a \$1.5 million budget by the Alabama Department of Pardons and Paroles.

Peggy Wilson of Wetumpka said the Tarwater facility, which closed Dec. 31, due to state budget cuts, still should be used for mentally handicapped patients. "They should have kept it as a mental health facility," Wilson said. "They already have a place for criminals. I think those who want to commit crimes will, and those who don't, won't."

Joe Benson, a retired physician in Wetumpka who used to make sick calls at Tutwiler, said the new program will be good for the inmates. "I think rehabilitation for these women and getting them back into the world is worthwhile," he said. "Many go back into the same habits when they're released so perhaps this will help break some habits and make them more productive citizens."

When the announcement was made that Tarwater was closing, Rep. Jack Venable, D-Tallassee, appointed a committee of residents and officials from Wetumpka to look into ways to use the facility, which had housed 65 patients. Committee member Jerry Willis, a Wetumpka city councilman, said finding a productive use for the facility and providing jobs for the approximately 173 people who lost theirs when Tarwater closed was the main priority for him. "We needed employment for those people," Willis said. "As a community, we needed to make sure we could continue to employ people in this area."

"Citizens are adjusted to having the prison here, and I think it will work well."

—Janice Whorton, City Clerk

"They should have kept it as a mental health facility. They already have a place for criminals."

—Peggy Wilson, Citizen

We provided feedback because our community is involved in the usage of the property."

Another committee member, Janice Whorton, Wetumpka's city clerk, said another reason to support the program is because the women will receive treatment.

"Drugs and alcohol may not be the reason they are incarcerated, but they are usually at the root of their problems," Whorton said. "Anything that will help bring life back into the facility and bring life back into the community is a good thing. Citizens are adjusted to having the prison here, and I think it will work well."

Cynthia Dillard, assistant executive director for Pardons and Paroles, said the inmates in the program will receive educational opportunities to work toward gaining their GED and will be taught job, social and life skills. There will be 200 women housed in the facility, and the average stay will be four months, Dillard said.

"We didn't feel comfortable putting them out without an opportunity to better themselves before (being) released," she said. "There are some excellent treatment programs in the Department of Corrections but the funding is too low. This is badly needed and one of the greatest needs in the state."

Venable said gaining this program was one of the best things that could have happened for the facility and the community. The committee also has requested that a fence be constructed in front of the building to keep people out. "The citizens on the committee felt it might be better accepted if a fence was put up in front," Venable said. "There is already one in the back. We want to keep drugs out of the facility, and I think the fence will help."

Venable will request permission from the director of Pardons and Paroles to keep the committee together for at least one year to monitor the program. ■

Prison Ministry Volunteers Gather In Tuscaloosa For Celebration

MICHAEL J. BROOKS/ ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Some 200 volunteers from all over central Alabama gathered in Tuscaloosa on Jan. 30 for the Bibb County Correctional Facility Volunteer Appreciation Banquet. Chaplain Eddie Smith presided at the event and first recognized BCCF's warden Cheryl Price, thanking her for her support.

"You men and women go places I couldn't go," said Price. "You represent contact with the outside world and with God. You make a difference every time you enter our facility."

Smith, chaplain since Dec. 1998, also recognized volunteers who had been at the prison as long as he had, and those who were fairly new to the ministry.

He thanked the "Cooking for Christ" ministry for preparing the meal, noting that they were members of "Kairos," an organization dedicated to giving hope and encouragement to inmates prior to and after their release.

Smith reported progress in fund-raising for the new chapel to be built in Brent. The growth of BCCF has mandated the present facility be used by admin-

istration, so ongoing plans have been drawn for a new and expanded ministry facility.

Lauren Barrett, architect with the Garrison Barrett Group of Birmingham, displayed the rendering of the new chapel. Barrett said the chapel would seat 300 for worship, and would include a kitchen, expanded library and meeting rooms.

Don Huff of Briarwood Presbyterian Church in Birmingham announced the Alabama Building Commission had approved the plans, and hoped groundbreaking would be this spring.

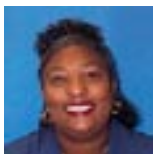
Huff asked volunteers to continue to solicit donations from their churches for the new chapel.

Miree Tolbert of Birmingham closed the banquet with his story of redemption. Tolbert's 20 year drug habit brought him a 65 year California prison sentence. "The Lord used volunteers like you to touch me," he said. "I gave my life to Christ in prison and promised to serve God any way I could. He brought miraculous release and I've been pleased to share his love with other inmates around the country." ■



Chaplain Eddie Smith greets a volunteer at the banquet in Tuscaloosa.

2003 AWARD RECIPIENTS



Support Employee of the Year – Nadine Tyson

This employee consistently goes beyond the call of duty in all facets of her employment with the Department of Corrections. The departmental employees and administrators rely heavily on her for personal direction as well as human resource information. She is well respected for her work ethics and character by representatives of other agencies as well as employees of the Department of Corrections. Nadine Tyson of the Personnel Division is the 2003 Support Employee of the Year.



Employee of the Year – Tom Seibert

This employee has endured significant personnel shortages in a number of business offices, as well as the internal audit staff. For approximately eight months, this employee was the only auditor on staff. His ability to prioritize was extremely helpful in meeting the goals and maintaining a consistent schedule of routine facility audits. This employee has an extraordinary ability to remain focused, and cope with what might otherwise seem to be an overwhelming volume of tasks to be accomplished. Mr. Tom Seibert of the DOC Central Accounting Office is this year's Employee of the Year.



Chaplain of the Year – Chaplain Chris Summers

This Chaplain possesses extraordinary visions. He was able to expand the Faith-Based Honor Dorm by presenting a plan to the Warden to move the dorm from inside the main facility to a stand-alone building. With the Chaplain's vision, this task was completed and was more successful than anyone could believe. He spends countless hours of his time finding volunteers who are willing to devote their time and funding to help make the honor dorm and other sections of the institution successful. He has instilled the need for change in many inmates that he has had the opportunity to minister to. Chaplain Chris Summers of the Holman Facility is deserving of the Chaplain of the Year award.



Steward of the Year – Clarence Daily

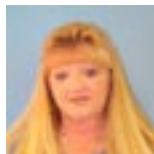
On December 20, 2002 an inmate assaulted this employee. He was hit in the back of the head with a 2 x 4 board and sustained serious injuries. In spite of serious headaches that plagued him immediately following his assault, this employee returned to work and has been diligent in making his kitchen one of the best-operated dining halls in the ADOC. He played an active part in making his facility's sandwich line operable, and despite being seriously short-handed, has continued to function efficiently and effectively. He willingly comes in on various shifts to make sure the job gets done.

This year's Steward of the Year goes to Clarence Daily of the Holman Facility.



Maintenance Employee of the Year – Clifton McGinnis

During the past year this employee has been a major contributor in the tremendous energy and resource conservation efforts at his facility. He assisted in curtailing water waste by establishing a daily inspection system for detecting water waste and misuse. He was also instrumental in taking cost-saving measures involving electricity & natural gas usage by installing off/on switches to control the use of electricity where lights were on 24/7, and insulating the hot water tanks to prevent the heat from escaping; and installing back flow valves to prevent hot water from going through the sewage system, saving hot water. He tinted windows to certain offices to prevent direct sunrays from entering which reduced the usage of the central cooling system. Because of this employee's initiative, resourcefulness, imagination, and skill, the cost saving measures reduced power usage by 2% per month resulting in a savings of \$660 per year, and reduced the water usage by 5% resulting in a \$2,760 per year savings. Mr. Clifton McGinnis of the Frank Lee Youth Center is this year's Maintenance Employee of the Year.



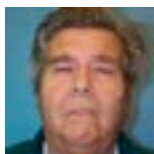
Clerical Employee of the Year – Lydia Peoples

This employee is a multifunctional employee who readily assumes the additional responsibilities of personnel absent in the business office/personnel office. She rarely makes a mistake. She maintains the Inmate Contingency Fund in an outstanding manner, and her efforts helped her business office to receive two audits with no deficiencies. She readily accepts additional responsibility without complaint, and is one of the most dedicated and professional employees in the department. This year's Clerical Employee of the Year, Ms. Lydia Peoples of the St. Clair Correctional Facility.



Professional Secretary of the Year – Reba Currie

This employee is more than just a secretary. She has the ability to handle very stressful situations professionally and with a smile. She was selected by the Warden to coordinate the Red Cross Blood drives, Health Department TB vaccinations, and quarantines at her facility. She also troubleshoots problems associated with the motion fence. When you combine her skills, professional attire and refreshing attitude, you come up with Reba Currie of the Ventress Correctional Facility as this year's Professional Secretary of the Year.



ACI Employee of the Year – Mason Coleman

This employee has done an outstanding job as acting Institutional Agricultural Superintendent. He was instrumental in ensuring the pea and okra contracts were successful and fulfilled. He prepared the farm for the upcoming winter season by having additional winter grazing acres available to the stocker and cow/calf operations. He has accomplished these tasks with limited resources, while reducing expenditures by 35%. Mr. Mason Coleman is this year's ACI Employee of the Year.



Supervisor of the Year, Support – Lisa Tucker

This employee is extremely knowledgeable in accounting functions. She sets the goals of the Business Office high and achieves those goals, while maintaining an excellent working rapport with subordinates and other staff members. Her management skills resulted in two audits with no deficiencies. She works closely with her subordinates to ensure that all functions of the business office are performed in an outstanding manner. This year's Supervisor of the Year award goes to Lisa Tucker of the St. Clair Correctional Facility.



Supervisor of the Year, Security – Lt. Joseph Womble

This employee is known for setting an example for others to follow. He never complains when things aren't going right. He simply steps up and grinds until the mission is completed. This supervisor excels over other employees by utilizing what's available to him to get the most with the least. Lt. Joseph Womble of the Elmore Correctional Facility has shown that he is a leader and is this year's Security Supervisor of the Year.



Correctional Officer of the Year, Northern – Annie Spann

This employee is responsible for the law library at her facility. She assists in the opening and searching of Christmas boxes, and has on three separate occasions found drugs in boxes, which helped to uncover a conspiracy to smuggle contraband into the facility. She has worked to learn the telephone system and discovered via the monitoring of the inmate phones, inmate's plans to bring drugs into the facility by way of



2003 AWARD RECIPIENTS

the Visitation yard. During this year she has maintained her responsibilities as Law Library Supervisor and Security Threat Group coordinator while rendering invaluable administrative skills to the Captain. This employee displays a willingness to work and seems to derive a pleasure from a job well done. Officer Annie Spann of the Donaldson Facility is the 2003 Correctional Officer of the Year for the Northern Region.



Correctional Officer of the Year, Central – Douglas Womble

This employee's primary assignment is that of back gate/receiving officer, but also performs several additional duties such as the laundry manager responsible for ordering and issuing of shoes, linens, blankets, clothes and inventory of all laundry products. He serves as the Institutional Supply Officer who orders all supplies to include cleaning and personal hygiene products for the inmates. He monitors the usage of supplies and instills control measures to minimize abuse/misuse. Though his duties are vast, he never loses sight of institutional security while performing these tasks. This year's Correctional Officer of the Year – Central Region goes to Officer Douglas Womble of the Frank Lee Facility.



Correctional Officer of the Year, Southern – Anthony Stonewall

This officer played a vital role in several serious incidents and investigations. He stepped in during a major assault and prevented what could have been a fatal stick to an inmate. He is extraordinary in searching inmates, inmate's property, in his knowledge of inmate behavior, in his ability to curb inmate problems, and in removing contraband from the institution. This officer is probably one of the best at communicating job-related information. He is fair, levelheaded, firm, and always sets a good example for other employees on a daily basis. Officer Anthony Stonewall of the Holman Facility is the Correctional Officer of the Year for the Southern Region.



Security Person of the Year – Ivory Corbitt

This Officer is a self-starter who needs little or no supervision in carrying out his day-to-day assignments. He always presents a neat and clean appearance and has a very high level of responsibility. On August 13, 2002, the Elmore Correctional Center Recycling Warehouse was reported to be on fire. This Officer immediately reported to the Recycling Center and began an effort to protect the main building adjacent to the warehouse. It was this effort that kept the entire Recycling Complex from being destroyed. Officer Ivory Corbitt of the Elmore Correctional Facility went above and beyond his call of duty, and is well deserving of this Security Person of the Year award.



Division Director of the Year – Andy Farquhar

This employee is known and respected by many people for his excellent leadership skills, his business like nature, his fairness, and his humble demeanor. This perception is shared by numerous individuals from the State of Alabama, and from across the nation. He is well known and respected for his leadership ability and commitment to quality by the Southeastern Correctional Industries Association group. Through the industries program that operates throughout the department, this Director generates a huge amount of revenue for the department each year. He works closely and cooperatively with other staff within ADOC, and represents the Department extremely well when interacting with other agencies. He never complains or procrastinates, but finds a way to get it done. Andy Farquhar is well deserving of the 2003 Director of the Year award.



Warden I of the Year – Lillie Watson-Foster

This Warden is a hands-on Warden who makes certain that she keeps abreast of all the activities going on inside at the Elba Work Release. She has made several improvements to her facility grounds and atmosphere, which have made conditions better for both the employees and the inmates assigned there. Because of her guidance and comradeship she maintains an effective and efficient workplace. She also maintains an employment rate of 98% for the inmate population, always striving to place them in the best-suited position available to them. Warden Lillie Watson-Foster has an excellent working relationship with her employees, the inmates, and the inmate employers, and is well deserving of the 2003 Warden I of the Year award.



Warden II of the Year - Charles Hadley

During much of this year, this Warden had total responsibility for the day-to-day operations of his facility during the absence of his Warden. Since the contract for the ADOC Recycling Coordinator was not renewed, he has voluntarily taken on the responsibilities that were performed by that contract employee. This Warden presently serves as the K-9 Coordinator for the ADOC, which includes annual training, field trials, and assisting the local K-9 Units when they are called out on an ADOC or local law enforcement escape or other major incident. Warden Charles Hadley of the Elmore Correctional Facility performs his duties as Warden II at the Elmore Correctional Facility in an outstanding manner, and is very deserving of the Warden II of the Year award.



Warden III of the Year – Cheryl Price

This Warden provides leadership and guidance to her employees and the inmates assigned to her facility. She is charged with the management of the state's second largest prison population. Managing her facility has never been an easy task, and has always proven to be a challenge. The facility was opened with a shortage of staff. At the time of opening, the only program at this facility was a 300-bed substance abuse program. This Warden recognized the need to be innovative and find work and activities for 1896 inmates. She worked diligently to introduce the Adult Basic Education program and other special programs. This Warden is professional, extremely creative and possesses exceptional people skills. Warden Cheryl Price of the Bibb County Correctional Facility is most deserving of this Warden III of the Year award.

Commissioner's Award — K-9 Tracking Teams

This year's Commissioner's Award goes to the ADOC K-9 Tracking Teams. Throughout the year, these teams are called to perform many tasks from tracking escaped inmates to assisting local law enforcement agencies in various tasks. Here are some examples of a typical K-9 Team's night.

One K-9 team was called at approximately 1 a.m. to help track an elderly man who was suffering from Alzheimer disease, and had wandered from his home. He was tracked over 3 miles into a coal mine strip pit and was found at approximately 4 a.m. lying in a pasture near the strip pit.

While still at this site, the K-9 Team received another call requesting assistance in Walker County in tracking a car thief who had fled into the woods. The suspect was tracked to the river where the scent was lost, and this search was eventually called off at approximately 7 a.m.

One team was called to assist in the tracking of an escaped inmate who had been picked up by a DeKalb County deputy and taken to DeKalb County for court. The Inmate was not shackled because he was believed to be crippled and walked with a cane. The inmate crawled through a security window that was less than 1 foot square. Once in the front seat, the inmate opened the front door and escaped into the woods across from the store


Awards Cont'd

where the deputy was located. The K-9 Team tracked the inmate for 3.6 miles through the woods and found him laid up under some brush just 1 hour and 16 minutes after the team went into the woods.

Another team successfully assisted the Marine Police in the tracking of a ten-year-old male lost in the middle of the Mobile Delta swamp. The boy had been hunting with his dad and friends. His dad got separated from the rest of the group while trying to find the group's boat. The boy was too exhausted to go any further, so his dad's friend left him in a tree to wait for rescuers. After a 12-hour search, the boy was found at 1:20 a.m., the night after his ordeal began.

That is just a few of many incidents involving the ADOC K-9 Teams, but I cannot go into detail on all of them. They have:

- assisted the multi-agency drug enforcement task force in several planned executions of search warrants for narcotics;
- assisted the county jails in apprehending escapees;
- tracked various suspects believed to be involved in homicides, burglaries, armed robberies, bank robberies, and many other felony activities.

These teams are called out all hours of the time, and are required to work in all types of weather, without sleep, and often without food, until the person being tracked is apprehended, or the search is called off. It is without a doubt that the K-9 teams receive little or no recognition for their tireless efforts, and are deserving of the 2003 Commissioner's Award. ■ 

Lowest Raw Food Costs

Congratulations to Chief Steward Nelson of Elmore Correctional Facility and his food service staff, and also, Chief Steward Green of Loxley CBF & W/C and his food service staff.

Steward Nelson maintained the lowest raw food cost for fiscal year 2003. His cost for the year was \$.925 per inmate per day. The average for major institutions was \$1.21. Based on this average and Steward Nelson's inmate population, this represents a yearly savings of \$64,349.69. A BIG PAT ON THE BACK FOR STEWARD NELSON AND HIS STAFF !!

Steward Green maintained the lowest raw food cost for fiscal year for Community Based Facilities. His cost for the year was \$.565 per inmate per day. The average for the centers was \$.88. Based on this average and Steward Green's inmate population, this represents a yearly savings of \$29,660.99. A BIG PAT ON THE BACK FOR STEWARD GREEN AND HIS STAFF !!

Also, to both of these men, for constantly showing up each day with a "can-do" attitude for one of the most challenging jobs the State of Alabama has to offer.

Other Major Institutions which exhibited good fiscal management and maintained a raw food cost under \$1 per inmate per day for the fiscal year were: Tutwiler, Staton, Red Eagle, and Frank Lee. Congratulations to Chief Stewards Jackson, Parker, Rowe and Williams.

No other Community Based Facilities even came close to Steward Green. He had the lowest raw food cost for 10 consecutive months for fiscal year 2003. ■



St. Clair Correctional Facility's Red Dog, pictured with handler Wade Sanders.

The Infamous Red Dog

LAURA NATION, ST. CLAIR TIMES WRITER.—He's caught countless felons on the loose, among them convicted drug dealers, rapists and armed robbers.

Red Dog has worked on St. Clair Correction Facility's tracking team for a little more than four years now, teaming up with handler Wade Sanders to take in escapees in all kinds of conditions.

The five-year-old bloodhound's consistent tracking record earned him a spot on the Alabama Animal Hall of

Fame's list of animals who were inducted onto the list Jan. 17 at the Wynfrey Hotel in Hoover.

The Alabama Animal Hall of Fame is sponsored by a committee of the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association. The organization seeks to recognize the state's most exceptional domestic, companion or assistance animals who have displayed outstanding loyalty, courage, service or intuitive abilities in its relationships with humans.

Red Dog was raised at the prison facility, where his mother was also a working tracking dog, Sanders said.

Red Dog is now considered one of the best tracking dogs in the country.

Sanders and others in the prison unit raised Red Dog from a puppy.

A recent capture was an inmate who had escaped from Donaldson Prison in Jefferson County. The inmate was being transported for a court appearance, and managed to escape from custody when officers made a stop along the way.

Red Dog and Sanders took off into rugged mountain territory near Noccalula Falls searching for the escapee.

"This place was rough terrain, you really almost needed climbing gear," Sanders said.

But the challenging site didn't bother Red Dog, who sniffed out his man in about an hour, Sanders said.

The inmate had sought cover underneath a fallen tree, which Red Dog discovered without a hitch.

When a tracking dog gets close to his search target, they usually bring their head up off the ground, Sanders said.

"That's how we'll know they've hit on it," Sanders said.

When you get close to a person, there's more air scent, Sanders said, so the dog isn't as focused on the ground for scent.

In his career at St. Clair, Red Dog has located about 60 people, Sanders said.

When he's working alone, without other search dogs, Sanders said Red Dog is usually quiet during the hunt. "But if he's out with other search dogs, he'll start barking if they get ahead of him," he said.

Though the tracking team usually searches for escaped inmates, there are other times Red Dog may be asked to help find missing persons.

But usually, those searches end with the person being located at a house, Sanders said, and a search can be called off.

Sanders and Red Dog have done well in competitions they've taken part in, placing fifth of 28 teams last fall in a tracking event held in Munson, Fla. Red Dog led a team of three other tracking dogs in the event.

The teams had to work one night track and one day track exercise, and are judged according to the time it takes to reach their objective.

Red Dog was nominated for the honor by Oneonta veterinarian Dr. Charles Payton.

Red Dog joined three others in making the list of state honorees for 2004. Other animals included this year were Pioneer, an 18-year-old pony used in Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind's therapeutic riding program; Paxton, a former guide dog for Talladega resident Jerry McKee; and Fred, the former "town dog" of Rockford. Both Paxton and Fred are now dead.

During the induction ceremony, Sanders received a plaque honoring Red Dog's work, and guests at the banquet heard a short speech about the dog's work. ■

Job Is 99% Mundane, 1% 'Stark Terror'

Officer at Limestone Correctional Facility doesn't have it easy

KAY CAMPBELL HUNTSVILLE TIMES STAFF WRITER, 01/31/04 CAPSHAW -

A case to the left of the locked gate Michael Coady walks through every day to his duties inside Limestone Correctional Facility is stuffed with artifacts reminding him of the dangers ahead.

There are homemade shanks of jagged Plexiglas with their handles wrapped in purloined bandages; a sharpened tip on a rod of twisted metal that used to be the handle for a toilet bowl brush; shaving razors melted to toothbrush handles to make a blade; improvised guns made of metal tubes and slingshot triggers.

The case of weapons found on inmates stands as a silent reminder of the grim possibilities beyond the locked gate where inmates mill.

Coady, who has worked as a corrections officer - today's term for a prison guard in Alabama - for six years, doesn't even glance at the case as he waits at the gate to be buzzed inside. But he never forgets it.

"If you've ever walked into a room and heard a man sucking air through his back, and you don't know where the knife is or where the attacker is standing - well, that's weird," Coady said, in attempt to describe his job.

"But you get him help, get them under control," he said. "Ninety-nine percent of the job is getting them fed, solving mundane problems like laundry. The other 1 percent is stark terror."

"It's a high energy job."

Too good at sales

And it's a job that his wife did not want him to consider, even though she is the one who brought it up. But it was a joke, she told him when he was looking for work and she suggested it as she read the help-wanted ads in the newspaper.

"I don't want you working out there," she said as he took the paper from her hands.

"Look," he recalls telling her, "I was a paratrooper in the Army. If I could jump out of an airplane, I could do that job."

Then he noted that the prison was also hiring women.

"If a girl could do it," he said, sneering the word to tease her, "you know I could do it."

He had become disenchanted with his job in sales. He was good at sales - too good, he remembers.

"In sales it got to the place I knew I could over-run someone but I knew they couldn't afford it," Coady said. "Sales eventually leads to selling something you don't agree with. I couldn't stomach it."

But the job in the prison is one he can do honorably, despite the images in movies and books of prison guards as sadistic torturers.

"People perceive corrections officers to be these Neanderthal thugs, and we're not like that," Coady said. "This prison couldn't function if we were like that."

"Everything we do is based on inmate cooperation. Think about it: You've got two officers and 249 inmates in an open-bay dorm. You've got to have cooperation."

Getting inmate cooperation, treating inmates with respect, making sure he is firm but always fair: Those were the lessons drilled into him in training, he said.

Alabama is fortunate in having well-trained prison officers, ones who go through the same training as police officers, he said. Some states, particularly those with private, for-profit prisons, simply hire minimum-wage security guards.

Interpersonal guarding

Coady knows about those places. His kid brother was in one in another state after he accepted \$50 to drive off a \$65,000 tractor and ended up convicted of grand theft. Remembering his brother reminds him that the inmates he sees are someone's brother, someone's son. It's his job to keep them incarcerated, but also to keep them safe from each other.

"You have to deal with the inmates on - I hate to use a PC term - but an interpersonal basis - or you won't be here," Coady said. "You can't have hot-heads or sadists doing this job. The administration won't allow it. The warden just won't allow it. That would threaten the security of the whole institution."

Getting to know the prisoners is like getting to know the citizens of a walled city, Coady said. There's the city jail (the isolation unit), the store, the hospital, the workshops, and the men he sees every day, year after year.

That familiarity can be his gravest danger, lulling him into a moment's inattentive complacency, and it can also be his most potent weapon.

"When you see an inmate you've been knowing every day for years not to be a problem, to have been respectful - and one day he goes just plumb off the deep end, yelling and flailing, well, I've got two choices," Coady said.

"I can use force and endanger him and me. Or I can pull him to the side and say, 'Hey, calm down. I know you don't act like this every day.'"

"That's when I'm going to find out his cousin just died or he just got turned down for parole," he said. "One incident like that, and the word spreads fast - in a minute it's in 2,000 people's ears - because inmates saw you give the guy a break for acting crazy for a minute. They basically saw you treat him like a human being instead of kicking him when he's down."

Interactions don't always go that smoothly, he said. He finds himself home at night mulling over any instance where he uses force, trying to figure out if it could have been avoided.

"If I'm thinking about it at night, it was bad - when you had something you could have kept from becoming what it became," he said. "If I can go another 19 years without ever touching another inmate, it's OK with me. The challenge is to see if there's a way to get a situation down to where you don't need force."

But if he needs to use force, he will take the night stick or the pepper spray off his belt and use them. He's also worked on the prison's Corrections Emergency Response Team, the in-house SWAT unit.

In the summer he guards the crews working in the fields. If one broke and ran, he would use the rifle he carries to shoot him, shooting to stop if he could.

"They don't bear the sword for no reason," Coady said, quoting from Romans 13 where Paul discusses a Christian's duties to authorities. "I'd have to shoot because the prisoner is potentially dangerous - and there's a school down there. My basic job is to keep these men incarcerated. By doing that, I keep people safe."

"Some of these guys are right where they need to be."

Reasons to stay

Even without the threat of inmate violence, the job carries dangers.

"It's difficult for a corrections officer to go home and share the day. I mean, the story of breaking up two homosexuals is not dinner-time material," Coady said. "You have to partition off part of yourself, shutting it down. I don't care who you are, watching human beings being incarcerated, by the nature of what it is, is depressing."

"Look, I was a paratrooper in the Army. If I could jump out of an airplane, I could do that job."

—COI MICHAEL COADY

"You can't have hot-heads or sadists doing this job....that would threaten the security of the whole institution.."

—COI MICHAEL COADY

Around the State Facility News

Alabama Corrections Academy

•January 15, 2004: The ACA staff traveled to Atmore, AL, to conduct on-site physical testing at Fountain Correctional Facility. Ninety-one (91) applicants were administered the written exam. Eighty-six (86) applicants participated in the physical testing. Fifty-eight (58) applicants passed the physical testing and twenty-eight (28) applicants failed.

•January 18, 2004: The Academy Staff greeted the first class of 2004. One hundred & seven (107) correctional officer cadets were appointed to the class. One hundred (100) cadets reported for training on Sunday evening, January 18, 2004. Currently, eighty-two (82) cadets remain assigned to Class 2004-01. The class will be administered the Mid-Term Exam on Monday, February 23, 2004. We are pleased to report that all eighty-two cadets successfully completed firearm requirements! The class is scheduled to graduate on April 01, 2004. The next scheduled class reports to the Academy on April 11, 2004.

•January 26-February 6, 2004: Lt. Bruce Chesser and Sgt. Brian Still greeted the first Jail Management Class of the year to the Academy. Twenty-four (24) jailers reported from the following counties/cities: Alex City PD, Bibb, Covington, Dallas, Greene, Madison, Marshall, Pike, and Russell counties. All participants completed the eighty (80) hour course on 6 February 04. The next scheduled Jail Management Class will be in April.

•January 29, 2004: Class 2004-01 traveled to Tutwil-er PFW to assist in a shakedown of the prison. The recruits received hands-on training and also had an opportunity to tour the facility. Warden III Gladys Deese and Warden II Frank Albright briefed the class and were very appreciative of the efforts and enthusiasm of the class.

•23 February-05 March 2004: The first Refresher/Lateral Entry Class will report for their 80-hour training on February 23, 2004. Currently, there are nine (8) of-ficers scheduled to attend the training. Lt. Bruce Chesser and Sgt. Brian Still are the primary instructors of the Lat-eral Entry program. This class will conclude on March 4, 2004. The next scheduled Refresher/Lateral Entry Class will be in May.

Bullock

•Congratulations to 1st Shift on winning the best of the best Competition for the past Quarter. Dinner of their choice was served to them on February 5, 2004.

•We welcome Officers D'Anthony Byrd and Willie Terry from Elba Community Base Facility.

•We welcome New Employees; Michael Oree, Cadet, Curtis Tarver, Cadet, James Thomas, Cadet, Pedehel Mar-tin, Cadet, Milton Palmer, Cadet, and Aurezetta Caldwell,

Radio Operator.

•Congratulations to Officer Cedric Smith on his pro-motion to Sergeant (COII) here at BCCF. [See photo].



Pictured left to right Captain Sylvester Nettles and Sergeant Cedric Smith.

Draper

•Congratulations to Aseelah Salaam, Promotion to Ac-countant, Attorney General's Office effective February 21, 2004.

•Mrs. Boyd and Mrs. Smith completed another 8-week SAP program. Mrs. Laura Murdock, Treatment Specialist of Bibb County Correctional Facility, spoke for Mrs. Boyd and Mr. Johnny Brown of "Popper's House" in Birmingham, spoke for Mrs. Smith. Both programs were well attended by family members.

Easterling

•Promotions: Lt. Christopher Gordy - to Captain at Donaldson

•Sgt. Willie Bryant - to Lieutenant

•Coi Phelix Woods and COI Jason Baxley - pro-moted to Sergeant

•Congratulations: Supervisor of the qtr. - Sgt. Na-thaniel Lawson

Support employee of the qtr. - Sandra Hayes, Classi-fication Specialist Officer of the qtr. - James McClure

•Easterling mourns the loss of COI Alan Shipman who passed away on December 1. Officer Shipman had over 14 years with the department. Our hearts go out to his wife, Kim, and their two young sons.

•We welcome new employee: Margaret Johnson, Steward I.

•Warden Mosley attended the ACA Conference in New Orleans. Much to her surprise, her name was drawn as the grand prize winner of a complete home office.

•Easterling placed second in the CFC Campaign Drive for 2003. Our staff will enjoy a BBQ dinner provided

by the ADOC for our support of this worthy cause.



Easterling Employees Caring & Sharing
Waiting for Rudolph and Santa's Sleigh!!
Ms. Franklin, Ms. Hayes, Ms. Adkins, Ms. Wilson
Officer McClure, Captain Ketchum, & Officer Allen
Waiting to deliver gifts of food, clothing, and toys to our two
Adopted families for Christmas. Thanks to the generosity of
Easterling Staff, their wish list was filled!



Classification Staff, Ms. Williams, Ms. Adkins, Ms. Franklin, Ms. Wilson, and Ms. Hayes coordinated the 2003 Sharing Project

Frank Lee

•Sgt. Campbell retired on Decemeber 31, 2004 after over 30 yearss of dedicated service. We wish Sgt. Camp-bell many, many years of health and continued success in his endeavors.

•Officer Mark Mershiimer is a welcomed addition to Frank Lee Youth Center's security team. Officer Mer-shimer transfers to Frank Lee Youth Center on January 10, 2004. He was previously a Transfer Agent with the Transfer Division.

•Ms. Lisa Richburg joind Frank Lee Youth Center on February 23rd as a member of the Steward's staff. Wel-come to Frank Lee Youth Center Steward Richburg.

•Frank Lee Youth Center graduated two SAP classes this quarter. Mr. Doug Farris' class graduated on Decem-ber 23, 2003. Mr. Bill Evan's class graduatioed on Febru-ary 12, 2004

•Congratulations Officer William A. Wild on receiving your 10-year service pin. Officer Wild reached his 10-year milestone on January 22, 2004, and is pictured receiving it from Captain Horace Burton, Jr. Continue the good work(see photo next page).

•Congratulations Sgt. Ruby Grays for your 25 years of exemplary service with the State of Alabama. Sgt. Grays has worked with the ADOC for approximately 11 years and-she worked with Tarwater for approximately 14 years. Sgt.

Grays reached her milestone on February 25, 2004. She is pictured with Captain Horace Burton, Jr. receiving her 25 year service pin. We wish Sgt. Grays continued success in her endeavors.

•Congratulations Officer Joe Locke for your 27 years of dedicated service with the Alabama Department of Corrections. Officer Locke retired on February 29, 2004, and is pictured with Captain Horace Burton, Jr. receiving a Certificate of Appreciation for his dedicated service. We wish Officer Locke many, many years of Health and Happiness.



Officer William A. Wild (rt.)



Sgt. Ruby Grays (rt.)



Officer Joe Locke (rt.)

Fountain

•The first Southern Region Christmas Ball was held on Dec. 20. It was a huge success. Those employees who

attended were treated to an outstanding assortment of delicious food, excellent entertainment and wonderful fellowship with co-workers. We hope to make this an annual event. There were many staff members who donated their time and efforts in organizing the event, decorating the auditorium, contracting the entertainment and preparing the food. The committee members who made this a successful event were:

Officer Terry Quarker—G.K. Fountain
Officer Wilma Wilson—G.K. Fountain
Officer Diane Taylor—G.K. Fountain
Officer Glenda Chancy—G.K. Fountain
Officer Lanetta Banks—Atmore Work Release
Officer Allen Lang—Holman
Officer Freddie Howard—Holman
Sgt. Steven Lane—G.K. Fountain
Sgt. Michael Banks—G.K. Fountain
Sgt. Mary Cooks—Atmore Work Release
Steward Johnnie Taylor—G.K. Fountain

•Staff Members of G.K. Fountain/J.O. Davis who had outstanding work attendance for the 2003 work year were recognized and presented Letters of Appreciation and Commendations for their dedication and attendance. Those employees who had perfect attendance during the 2003 work year were:

•COI Edwin Lashley, COI Randall Lucas, COI Quentin Worrell, COI Larry Bailey, COI Jerol Preyer, COI Timothy Wetzel, COI Larry Brooks, COI Jason Hysjulien, COI Brenda Lane, COI Larry Nichols, COI Kevin Reaves, COI Keith Gohagin, COI Scott Godwin, COI Steven Lane, Asst. Search Party Handler Donnie Macks, COSI Albert Williams, Search Party Handler Mickey Mustin, Steward I Johnnie Taylor, ASA I Felicia Stallworth, Stock Clerk Cynthia Lee, Steward I Beverly Stevens and COSII David Martinie.

•Those who had near perfect attendance which is missing no more than 16 hours work were: COI Charles Andrews, COI Sandra Boggan, COI Glenda Chancy, COI Melvin Hetzel, COI Ivan Ramer, COI Elouise Tolbert, COI Jerry Watts, COI David Zigler, COI Jacquelin Floyd, COI Albert Stewart, COI Ricky Ashcraft, COI Ricardo Carpenter, COI Angelia Hetherington Johnson, COI Dewey Carnely, COI Jody Gilchrist, Steward I Mack Washington, Steward I Charles Pace Radio Operator Robbie Moorer, COI James Dunn, COSI Preston Davis and COSII Tony Patterson.

•In January, on site employee testing was held at G.K. Fountain. With the diligent help from the Fountain and Holman Staff, the ladies from ADOC Personnel, the ADOC Training Division, and State Personnel, ninety-one applicants were tested and processed. It was a long day that began at 7:00 A.M. and ended after 9:00 P.M.

•Scott Godwin was promoted to COII.

•Employee Awards were: Officer of the Month; Marlene Poindexter - November

•Support Employee: Brenda Dansby—November
Jeffrey Byrd—December; Brian Eskelinen—December;
Roy Burnham—January; Jo Edeker—January

•Supervisor of the Quarter was Sgt. Robert Gandy

•Those who are serving our country in the military and are our heroes are: Cadet Timothy Graham, Cadet Sheri Sewel, COI Jeffrey Byrd, COI Randall Lucas, COI Jon Winger, COI Irma Henderson, Chief Steward David Brown, Sgt. Willie Knight and Sgt. Joseph Anderson. We pray for their safe and swift return.

Holman

•A Christmas Ball was held for the employees of the Southern Region. Officers from Fountain C. F., Atmore Work Release, J.O. Davis, and Holman worked together to plan this event. The committee worked hard to organize this first-time event and everyone who attended had a great time.

•Service pins were awarded to the following personnel:

Jason Shufford, COI—20 years
Robert Hadley, COI—20 years
Linda Brooks, COI—15 years

•Congratulations to each of these employees for their years of service to the Department.

•Several Holman employees were recognized at the Departmental Christmas Luncheon for their outstanding work during 2003:

Clarence Daily – Steward of the Year
Chris Summers – Chaplain of the Year
Anthony Stonewall – Officer of the Year for the Southern Region

•These employees have worked diligently and we are glad to see them rewarded for their efforts.

•Congratulations are also due to the following employees for being recognized by their peers for outstanding work:

James Powers, Classification Supervisor—Supervisor of the Quarter
Renee Parker—Employee of the Month - October
Sherman Glover—Employee of the Month - November
Robert Hadley—Employee of the Month - December
Philip Brown—Employee of the Month - January

•Hats off to Lt. Clarica Gamble and Sgt. Melvin Ramsey. They received a certificate "Bronze Society" for their contributions to the State Combined Charities Campaign.

•There are many positive changes taking place at W.C. Holman Correctional Facility. The physical structure is being cleaned up and made to look better. Work has begun to have the entire institution painted. The painting began in the Health Care Unit and will continue throughout the institution. Work has been done on the towers to improve working conditions there as well.

•Chaplain Summers has recently graduated the fourth group of the Long Distance Dad's, which is part of the National Fatherhood Initiative Program.



Kilby

- Service Pins:

COI Gerald Woodard—25 years
COI Allen Thomas—20 years
COI Desmond Vickers—20 Years

- Gulf War Returns: COI Tavoires Surles

- Gulf War Activations: COI Jeffery Bruce

COI Tommy Hetherington

•Maryetta McCants, Deputy Warden's Secretary at Kilby Correctional Facility, was selected as Mother of the Year at her church, Old Elam Missionary Baptist Church, Montgomey, AL. This honor was bestowed upon her for her dedication to helping the children in the church and the time she devotes to assisting in church programs and projects. This dedication is reflected in her work at Kilby. She is always willing to assist any employee who needs her help. She is a real asset to Kilby Correctional Facility.

•KCF continues to offer support by sending CO's with TAS to transfer inmates back from Miss. We are also supporting Montgomery Work Center by loaning CO's to them on a daily basis.

Limestone

•Limestone Correctional Facility is looking forward to the 20 year anniversary. October 22, 2004 will be twenty years since the Institution opened. The annual Fish Fry and Anniversary will be held at the same time (son to be announced). It is with great pride that current employees of Limestone Correctional Facility carry on the tradition of loyalty and service. All DOC Facilities are responsible for upholding the laws of the State of Alabama, maintaining security, custody and control of inmates, and protecting staff and the public. The ADOC is also dedicated to providing productive jobs, educational opportunities and treatment programs for self-improvement.

•Limestone Correctional Facility salutes the 16 Officers, one (1) Sergeant and one (1) Lieutenant that are presently activated in the military.

- Congratulations to the employees of the Quarter:

Security - Ricky Morgan
Support - Lynnette Thomas

•Since October 1, 2003, the sandwich line has made \$48,218.03 profit with over 24,000 pints of ice cream sold.

- Welcome to the new employees at Limestone:

—Melissa Olson - Classification Specialist
—Linda Goram - Drug Treatment Counselor

- Congratulations to the following:

—David Tolbert Promoted from Correctional Officer

I to Sergeant

—Terry Rynders promoted from Steward I to Steward II

- Service Pins:

Guy Noe, COI—5 Years
Sean Bright, COI—10 Years
Hubert Hurst, COI—10 Years

Christopher Seger, COI—10 Years

Anna Talley, ASAI—10 Years

Willie Nettles, COI—15 Years

Bill Prater, COI—15 Years

Paula Richardson, COI—15 Years

David Stringer, COI—15 Years

Brian Waters, COI—20 Years

•Limestone Correctional Facility is mourning the loss of Chief Steward Ray Chapman who began his career at Limestone on June 10, 1985. Mr. Chapman completed his earthly journey on January 14, 2004.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Chapman, and one son, Mark Chapman. In addition to these survivors, his Limestone Correctional Facility family survives Steward Chapman. Mr. Chapman became Chief Steward on July 24, 1993, and quickly gained respect of security and fellow stewards by performing his duties in an admirable manner. At the time of his death, Mr. Chapman was regarded as a true professional, showing firmness and fairness in his dealings with each person whom he came in contact with. Mr. Chapman will be missed by his many friends and family.

Mobile Community Based Facility

•At the first of the year Warden Derrick Carter and Sgt. Tony Wilson were deployed. We will miss them at Mobile Work Release and wish them a safe and speedy return. On 1/5/04, Captain Gary Hetzel from Loxley Work Release was assigned as Acting Warden. We are glad to have him here. We also hired a Steward I, Ms. Kathy Stonewall, this past December. We welcome her to the ADOC family.

•On 1/27/04, Mobile Work Release coordinated with Loxley Work Release to provide orientation and training classes for non-departmental inmate supervisors that utilize ADOC inmates per Administrative Regulation 320 (Safety Roadway regulation). The classes were conducted at Daphne Civic Center.

•Mobile Work Release along with Loxley Work Release had the lowest raw food cost per inmate of all state facilities for the month of January 2004.

•On 2/1/04, Mobile Work Release had a reading program sponsored by Mrs. Pheres Pickett (a volunteer from Day Spring Baptist Church) and the GED inmates. It was a great program.

•The Alabama Cooperative Extension, with Mrs. Viletta Beck, teaches food and nutrition to the inmates here at Mobile Work Release on Mondays and Fridays. The group (inmates) had an opportunity to visit The Mercy Ship. The Mercy Ship carries medical supplies and service to poverty stricken countries. The ship is docked in Mobile for repairs.

•On 2/3/04, Captain Hetzel attended the Mobile County Sheriff's Office Enforcement Group training conference and luncheon in Mobile.

•On 2/4/04, Mobile Work Release supervisors received training from Ms. Sue Berthau-me, concerning "Injury Management System (IMS) Procedure For Supervisors" and "State Employee Injury Compensation Trust Fund" Guide to Benefits and Claims Filing.

•On 2/19/04, Mobile Work Release revised the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) and is in the process of finalizing them with the staff.

•On 2/19/04, Information Systems installed the Imaging and scanning system here at Mobile Work Release/Community Work Center.

•On 2/22/04, Mobile Work Release had a program for the inmates who received aftercare certificates. We had eight inmates received their aftercare certificates.

•On 2/29/04, Sgt. Adline Gulley and Sgt. Sharon McNeal attended the law enforcement prayer luncheon. The Chaplain Ministry of the Mobile Police Department sponsored the luncheon. The luncheon was great.

•Mobile Work Release/Community Work Center was recognized as an Efficient Energy User for FY 2003. The employees at Mobile Work Release/Community Work Center reduced their usage in one major utility in FY 2003. They are to be congratulated and deserve a rating of "Achiever in Energy Conservation". Great Job Mobile!

Red Eagle Honor Farm



Officer Tim Adamson received his 20 year service pin from Warden Boutwell and Lt. Donnie Brown.

St. Clair

•St. Clair's K-9, "Red Dog", was inducted into the Alabama Animal Hall of Fame. The event was a formal, black tie affair held at the Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham. The organization seeks to recognize the state's most ex-



ceptional domestic, companion or assistance animals who have displayed outstanding loyalty, courage, service or intuitive abilities in its relationships with humans. "Red Dog" has captured many fleeing felons during his career. He was a key factor in St. Clair's K-9 unit placing second in the state and fifth out of 28 K-9 teams in the southeast in the trials held in Munson, Florida.

•St Clair currently has eight officers attending training at the Academy. We wish these officers the best of luck and hope all of these officers graduate.

•We honored our Employees of the Quarter and our Employees of the Year for 2003. The Employees of the Quarter were COI Greg Bevel for security and Mr. Phillip Cox for support. Employees of the Year were COI Ronald Moore for security and Ms Jacques Moore and Ms Phyllis Chevis for support.

•Prison Health Services assigned Ms Wendy Smith as the Regional Supervisor and Ms Lottie Wiley, HSA, for St Clair. Congratulations to these PHS employees.

•Mr James Sherrod, Prison Oversight Committee, visited the facility. He also attended our Employee of the Quarter/Year luncheon.

•Commissioner Donal Campbell toured St Clair (in the cold rain!). Institutional Coordinator Roy Hightower also visited the facility and assessed kitchen operations/equipment with vendors.

•The Kairos completed a one day session at St Clair. Many inmates attended this religious function. The Fatherhood Initiative and the Discipleship Program both conducted graduations.

•Congratulations to SGT Ronald England who was promoted to lieutenant. He will be assigned to Bibb Correctional Facility. He is well deserving of the promotion.

•St Clair honors our twelve personnel who are currently serving our country:

•COI Kenneth Pierce; COI Darryl Robinson; COI Donald Scott; COI Larry Carnes; COI Billy Ingram; COI Lonzie Edwards; COI Mark Taft; COI Deverette Howard; COI Michael McCleese; COI Michael Lindsey; COI Van Posey; COI Clyde Stone.

•Congratulations to the following personnel who received service pins:

Sgt Mitchell Sanders—20 Years; COI Clyde Helton—20 Years; COI Jerry Puckett—20 Years; COI Donald Turner—20 Years; Dr. David Sandefer—15 Years; COI Frederick Dixon—15 Years; COI Bryan Chapman—10 Years; COI Richard Cushing—10 Years; COI David Ellis—10 Years; COI Bruce Turner—10 Years; Mr Ron Douglas—5 Years; COI Charles Bryant—5 Years.

Staton

•Steward Gerald Smith was promoted to Steward II at Staton Correctional Facility. We congratulate Steward Smith on his well-deserved promotion.

•Staton welcomes Lashera Glaze to Staton Communications and congratulate her on her promotion to Police Communications Officer III.

•It was in 1974 that Robert Sanford made the career choice of his life. He chose to become a Correctional Officer. Today while assigned to Staton Correctional Facility he celebrates 30-years of dedicated service. His experience has proven to be very valuable on many occasions. His seasoned experience and on the job training has impacted the lives of many Correctional Officers and junior Supervisors. Although in the twilight of his career, he continues to be a role model for the security staff. So, today we say congratulations to a true professional.

•Also, Correctional Officer I Robert Sims was awarded his 25-year pen. Congratulations to Officer Sims.



Captain Robert Sanford Celebrates 30 Years of Dedicated Service.

Tutwiler Prison For Women

•On December 5, Tutwiler held their Secret Pal Christmas Party. There was plenty of food and fun. The names of the Secret Pals were revealed and there were a lot of people surprised.

•On December 18, Tutwiler had their Christmas Party and Open House. The inmates decorated their dorms and judging was done by votes from the guests of the Open House. The winners of the Dorm received pizza for their hard work. Also during the Christmas Party, the family members of the Activated Officers came and took part in our Christmas Luncheon. Gifts were given to the Activated Officers children, to brighten up their Christmas. Our prayers still go out to these families and officers.

•Since October 2003, Tutwiler has received approximately 56 returned inmates from Louisiana.

•On January 9, 2003, Lieutenant Patti LaHue's mother, Barbara Taylor, passed away. Our sympathy goes out to Lieutenant LaHue and her family. Lieutenant LaHue's husband had been activated and was brought home for the memorial Service. PLEASE keep Lieutenant LaHue in our prayers.

•On February 4, the following officers were presented there 15 year Service Pins:

COI Tommy Cammon
COI Bobbi McCoo
COI Michael Nelson

Angela Villali – Drug Treatment Supervisor

•Also, Warden Deese gave an Accolade!! to all the employees that were nominated for the Annual Awards, even though they did not win the awards, Warden Deese says she has the best staff in the state.

•Our staff still alternates the weekly trips to Louisiana to monitor our inmates.

Ventress

•With great sadness we announce the untimely death of one of our own, Officer Nellie Woods. She was involved in a one-car accident, while in route to work on the morning of January 06, 2004. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Woods Family and her fiancé; Sgt. Rodney Scarver (VCF K-9 Team).

•Please keep these employees in your thoughts and prayers:

—Ofc. Aaron Patterson (Recreation) has suffered an unexpected illness and has yet to return to work.

—Ofc. Glenda Murry's granddaughter; Ayannah Turner (7/19/01) age 2, is presently under going chemotherapy for kidney cancer. Ayannah has only one kidney remaining in her frail young body.

—Lt. Charles Edwards has returned to work after an unfortunate accidental fall, resulting in extensive injury to his hip and left hand.

—R/O Catherine Rivers' (3rd Shift) mother is under going treatment for breast cancer.

•Congratulation to Sgt. Sharon McSwain-Holland on her promotion to Lieutenant on 3rd Shift here at VCF, effective November 15, 2003. She has been employed at VCF since 1997.

•At the 2003 Annual Christmas Luncheon, Mrs. Reba Currie was awarded the Professional Secretary of the Year.

•Welcome Sgt. Freddie Ingram the newest member of VCF K-9 Team.

•Congratulations Ofc. Phillip Fenn on the birth of his son; Kyran RaShon Fenn, born 12/19/03 at 6 lbs 14.7 oz

•Congratulations to Ofc. Jimmy Thomas the newest member of the South Central CERT Team.

•Welcome aboard Mr. Jeff Smith, 2nd Shift Radio Operator.

•Welcome Sgt. William Seals from VCF Training to 1st Shift Sergeant.

•Welcome Sgt. William Flowers from Easterling Correctional Facility to VCF Training.

•Congratulations to Sgt. Vince Carter on his recent assignment as VCF Administrative Sergeant.

•Sgt. Michael Smith has been appointed VCF-EEO officer. Sgt. Smith joins us at VCF from Bullock County Correctional Facility as 2nd Shift Sergeant.

•Let's welcome back Ofc. Levan Burroughs as he returns to VCF from serving active duty with the "Iraqi Freedom" force.

•Ventress Correctional Facility presently has 10 officers on active military duty:

UNBELIEVABLE EVENTS OF 2003

1. WILL THE REAL DUMMY PLEASE STAND UP?

AT&T fired President John Walter after nine months, saying he lacked intellectual leadership. He received a \$26 million severance package. Perhaps it's not Walter who's lacking intelligence.

2. WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS:

Police in Oakland, California spent two hours attempting to subdue a gunman who had barricaded himself inside his home. After firing ten tear gas canisters, officers discovered that the man was standing beside them in the police line, shouting, "Please come out and give yourself up."

3. WHAT WAS PLAN B???

An Illinois man, pretending to have a gun, kidnapped a motorist and forced him to drive to two different automated teller machines, where in the kidnapper proceeded to withdraw money from his own bank accounts.

4. THE GETAWAY! A man walked into a Topeka, Kansas Kwik Stop, and asked for all the money in the cash drawer. Apparently, the take was too small, so he tied up the store clerk and worked the counter himself for three hours until police showed up and grabbed him.

5. DID I SAY THAT??? Police in Los Angeles had good luck with a robbery suspect who just couldn't control himself during a line-up. When detectives asked each man in the line-up to repeat the words: "Give me all your money or I'll shoot," the man shouted, "that's not what I said!"

6. ARE WE COMMUNICATING?? A man spoke frantically into the phone, "My wife is pregnant and her contractions are only two minutes apart!" "Is this her first child?" the doctor asked. "No!" the man shouted, "This is her husband!"

7. NOT THE SHARPEST TOOL IN THE SHED!! In Modesto, California, Steven Richard King was arrested for trying to hold up a Bank of America branch without a weapon.

King used a thumb and a finger to simulate a gun, but unfortunately, he failed to keep his hand in his pocket. (hellllllloooooo!) **8. THE GRAND FINALE (I LOVE THIS ONE!!!)**

Last summer, down on Lake Isabella, located in the high desert, an hour east of Bakersfield, Cal. some folks, new to boating, were having a problem. No matter how hard they tried, they couldn't get their brand new 22 ft boat going. It was very sluggish in almost every maneuver, no matter how much power was applied. After about an hour of trying to make it go, they putted to a nearby marina, thinking someone there could tell them what was wrong. A thorough top side check revealed everything in perfect working condition. The engine ran fine, the out drive went up and down, and the propeller was the correct size and pitch. So, one of the marina guys jumped in the water to check underneath. He came up choking on water, he was laughing so hard. *NOW REMEMBER... THIS IS TRUE.* Under the boat, still strapped securely in place, was the trailer. ■

Arizona Standoff ...: cont'd from pg 5

could have been lost.

Aside from occasional "wellness checks," when the woman was allowed to speak briefly with negotiators, authorities were kept in the dark.

Prison authorities, claiming publicity might incite violence or interfere with negotiations, maintained a virtual news blackout about the initial kitchen melee, the hostages, the inmates and demands.

Authorities declined to discuss the specifics of the release, but Schriro said there were "no special concessions."

At the incident command post at the prison, Deputy Chief Jesse Locksa of the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, said the officer's release was greeted with cheers, hugs and "big sighs of relief."

"We felt exhilarated. We were relieved. We didn't get to watch the Super Bowl, but we won the Super Bowl." ■



99% Mundane, 1% 'Stark Terror': cont'd from pg 11

"If you define yourself by what you do, you're making a mistake. That's true of any job, but especially this one," he said. "You have to define yourself not by what you do, but by what you are."

He works out his own stress on the golf course, playing his guitar, staying active in his church.

So why does he stay? Why didn't he stay with the job he took for a while in airport security when the federal government was hiring? Why did he come back here?

"You've got to be a little crazy to come in here every day," Coady said, joking about it, then answering thoughtfully. "There's something about this particular place that causes topics so touchy in other places not to be so touchy, like race and homosexuality. There's nobody that thinskin here and that appeals to me."

"And maybe it's my military background, but I like the environment where everything is cut-and-dried," he said. "It's tidy."

"And here I can work with somebody I don't particularly like because there's something about this job that makes you leave those things right there," he said, pointing to the outside gate. "It makes you get along better with people." ■



Facility News—Ventress: cont'd from pg 15

Gregory Blackmon; Steve Terry; Darrell Blackmon; Robert Thomas; Jerry Flucker; Mack Williams; Gary Henderson; John McKinnon; Robert Merritt; Randall Johnson.

•Congratulations Lt. Christopher Gordy, the husband of Ofc. Angelia Cooper-Gordy (VCF visitation officer), on his recent promotion to Captain at Donaldson Correctional Facility. ■

Articles or suggestions for
Corrections News
are invited.

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